How Much Does Delta Charge for Unaccompanied Minors?

QUICK ANSWER:

Delta charges $150 per child each way for domestic UM service ($300 round-trip). International UM service costs approximately $300 each way. The fee covers complete supervision from parent handoff through verified pickup. The fee is per child. Standard ticket fare and bag fees are additional. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 for exact fees on your route and number of children.

SENDING A CHILD ALONE? Call Delta Airlines
+1 (855) 203-2961 (Available 24/7 | UM Bookings Are Phone-Only)
Press 0 to skip menu — UM service requires advance booking
Best time: Tue-Wed 6-8 AM ET | Source: delta.com

DELTA UM FEE BREAKDOWN:

1. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 to book — UM reservations cannot be made online

2. Verify your child's age qualifies: 5-14 mandatory UM, 15-17 optional

3. Ages 5-7: nonstop/direct only | Ages 8-14: connections allowed

4. Fee: $150 each way domestic | ~$300 each way international

5. Provide child's name, age, parent info, and designated pickup person details

6. Parent receives gate pass to escort child through security to the gate

7. Pickup person must present government photo ID matching UM paperwork

8. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 at least 3-5 days before travel for best availability

What Is the Domestic UM Fee?

Delta charges $150 per child each way for domestic unaccompanied minor service. A round-trip costs $300 per child in UM fees on top of the airfare. The fee covers the complete supervision service including check-in assistance, gate escort, in-flight monitoring, connection escort if applicable, and verified handoff to the designated pickup person at the destination. The fee is the same regardless of whether the flight is nonstop, direct, or connecting. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 and the agent adds the UM service fee to your booking during the phone reservation.

The $150 fee is charged per child, not per family. Two siblings traveling together pay $300 each way ($600 round-trip) in addition to their ticket prices. Some families report that Delta occasionally offers a

reduced fee for the second sibling, but this is not standard policy. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 and ask about any multi-child pricing when booking siblings together.

What Is the International UM Fee?

International UM service costs approximately $300 per child each way, higher than the domestic $150 fee due to the additional complexity of international travel including customs, immigration, and potentially longer flight durations. The exact international fee may vary by route. International UM is available only on select routes, and not all international destinations accept unaccompanied minors. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 with your specific international destination for fee confirmation and route availability.

The higher international fee reflects the enhanced supervision required: assisting the child through customs and immigration at the destination, ensuring proper documentation is presented to border authorities, and potentially managing longer connection times at international hubs. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 at least 2-4 weeks before international UM travel because route availability and documentation requirements need advance planning.

What Is Included in the UM Fee?

The UM fee covers the full supervision chain from parent handoff to pickup person delivery: gate pass issuance for the parent, dedicated agent at the departure gate, priority boarding, designated seating near flight attendants, periodic in-flight check-ins, connection escort between gates by dedicated staff, agent meeting the child at the destination aircraft door, terminal escort to the pickup area, and government ID verification of the pickup person before releasing the child. No additional supervision charges apply beyond the one-time each-way fee. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 for a complete description of included services.

The UM fee does not include the cost of the airline ticket itself, any checked baggage fees, or in-flight purchases. The ticket must be purchased separately, and the UM fee is added as a service charge during the phone booking. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 and the agent quotes the total cost including ticket fare plus UM fee during the booking call.

Are There Additional Hidden Costs?

There are no hidden fees beyond the $150 domestic or approximately $300 international UM service charge. The UM fee is the total cost for the supervision service. Standard airline charges apply separately: the child's ticket at standard pricing, checked baggage fees per normal policy, and any in-flight purchases. Some parents provide their child with a prepaid debit card or cash for in-flight snacks and purchases. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 and the agent provides a complete cost breakdown during booking so there are no surprises.

For international UM travel, additional costs beyond the airline may include passport application fees, visa fees for the destination country, notarized consent letter costs, and any required vaccinations. These are not Delta charges but travel preparation expenses. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 for airline-specific costs and consult the destination country's embassy for non-airline costs.

How Does the UM Fee Compare Across Airlines?

Delta's $150 domestic UM fee is in line with American Airlines ($150) and slightly higher than some competitors. Southwest charges $50 each way, the lowest among major carriers. Alaska charges $75. JetBlue charges $100. United charges $150. When comparing, consider the route network, supervision quality, and connection handling. Delta's extensive hub network provides the most nonstop UM route options, reducing the need for connections. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 and compare Delta's UM service availability on your specific route versus competitors.

The fee comparison should also consider total cost including the ticket price. A competitor with a $50 lower UM fee but a $100 higher ticket price on the same route is actually more expensive overall. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 and the agent quotes the complete cost so you can compare total trip expense against other airlines for your specific route.

Can You Get a Refund for a UM Fee?

If Delta cancels the flight and you choose not to rebook, the UM fee is refunded alongside the ticket refund. If you cancel the booking before departure, the UM fee is included in the eCredit or refund per the fare rules. If the child is denied boarding due to a Delta error, the UM fee should be refunded. If you no-show, the UM fee is forfeited along with the ticket. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 for UM fee refund processing in any of these situations.

If the UM service was not properly delivered, for example if Delta staff did not escort the child at a connection or the pickup verification was not performed, file a complaint through delta.com or call +1 (855) 203-2961 to request a UM fee refund for inadequate service. Delta takes UM service quality seriously and investigates all complaints. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 with the specific service failure details.

Is the UM Fee Worth the Cost?

For children ages 5-14, the UM fee is mandatory and not optional. For teens ages 15-17, the decision to pay $150 for optional UM service depends on the teen's maturity, travel experience, and the complexity of the itinerary. First-time teen travelers, teens flying internationally, and teens with connecting flights benefit most from the added supervision. Experienced teen travelers on nonstop domestic flights may not need the service. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 and discuss your teen's situation with the agent for guidance on whether optional UM service is recommended.

Parents should consider the peace of mind value. Knowing that Delta staff is supervising your child from gate to gate, escorting through connections, and verifying the pickup person's identity provides significant comfort, especially for younger children and first-time flyers. The $150 fee is modest compared to the value of professional supervision. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 and make the booking decision based on your comfort level.

How Do You Pay the UM Fee?

The UM fee is collected during the phone booking when you call +1 (855) 203-2961. The agent adds the UM service to the flight reservation and charges the fee to your credit or debit card along with the ticket fare. If the ticket was already purchased and you are adding UM service afterward, the agent charges only the UM fee to your card. The UM fee appears as a separate line item on your booking confirmation. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 to add UM service to an existing booking or to book a new flight with UM included.

The UM fee is non-refundable if you voluntarily cancel after the standard cancellation window, unless your ticket is refundable. Within 24 hours of booking, the full amount including UM fee is refundable per DOT rules. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 for any changes to a UM booking and the agent handles fee adjustments accordingly.

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Unaccompanied Minor Age and Route Rules

Age	UM Service	Routes Allowed	Fee
Under 5	Not accepted (too young)	Cannot fly unaccompanied	N/A
5-7 years	UM required (mandatory)	Nonstop and direct only	$150 each way
8-14 years	UM required (mandatory)	Nonstop, direct, and connections	$150 each way
15-17 years	UM optional (can fly alone)	All routes (no restrictions)	$150 if requested
5-14 on international	UM required (mandatory)	Select int'l routes only	$300 each way (varies)

15-17 on international	UM optional	All int'l routes	$300 if requested
Last flight of the day	Not accepted (ages 5-14)	Risk of overnight strand	N/A (policy block)
Connecting flights (5-7)	Not accepted (nonstop only)	Nonstop and direct only	N/A (policy block)

How Does Delta Compare to Other Airlines?

Policy	Delta	American	United	Southwest	Alaska	JetBlue
UM age range	5-17	5-17	5-17	5-11	5-17	5-13
UM fee domestic	$150 each way	$150 each way	$150 each way	$50 each way	$75 each way	$100 each way
Connections (young)	8+ only	8+ only	5+ (some)	5+ (some)	8+ only	None (nonstop only)
Nonstop required	5-7: nonstop/direct	5-7: nonstop/direct	Varies	No	5-7: nonstop	All ages: nonstop only
Int'l UM	Select routes	Select routes	Select routes	Not available	Select routes	Not available
Booking method	Phone only	Phone or online	Phone only	Online or phone	Phone only	Phone only

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People Also Ask

Q: What is Delta's unaccompanied minor policy?

Children ages 5-14 must use Delta's Unaccompanied Minor (UM) service when flying without a parent or guardian. Children 15-17 may use UM service optionally. The fee is $150 each way domestic. UM includes dedicated staff supervision from check-in through pickup at destination. Booking is phone-only by calling +1 (855) 203-2961. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 to arrange UM travel.

Read our complete guide for more details >

Q: How much does Delta charge for unaccompanied minors?

Delta charges $150 each way for domestic unaccompanied minor service and approximately $300 each way for international routes. The fee covers supervision from check-in through handoff to the designated pickup person at the destination. The fee applies per child, so two children traveling together pay $300 each way domestic. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 for exact fees on your route.

Read our complete guide for more details >

Q: What age can a child fly alone on Delta?

Children ages 5-14 can fly alone using mandatory UM service. Ages 5-7: nonstop and direct flights only. Ages 8-14: nonstop, direct, and connecting flights. Ages 15-17: can fly alone without UM service, or optionally use UM service for an additional fee. Children under 5 cannot fly unaccompanied. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 for age-specific rules and available routes.

Read our complete guide for more details >

Q: How do you book an unaccompanied minor on Delta?

UM bookings must be made by calling +1 (855) 203-2961 because the online system cannot process UM reservations. Provide the child's name, age, flight details, parent/guardian information, and designated pickup person's details. The agent books the flight, adds UM service, and explains all procedures. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 at least 3-5 days before travel for best availability.

Read our complete guide for more details >

Q: Can a 5-year-old fly alone on Delta?

Yes, children as young as 5 can fly on Delta using the mandatory UM service. Ages 5-7 are restricted to nonstop and direct flights only, with no connections. The $150 domestic fee covers full supervision. A parent must escort the child through security to the gate. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 to book UM service for a 5-year-old and verify nonstop route availability.

Read our complete guide for more details >

Q: What happens at the airport for an unaccompanied minor?

The parent checks the child in at the ticket counter, completes UM paperwork with pickup person details, receives a gate pass to escort the child through security and to the gate, and hands the child to a Delta agent at the gate. The agent supervises boarding and seating. At destination, a Delta agent walks the child to the designated pickup person and verifies ID. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 for the complete UM airport procedure.

Read our complete guide for more details >

Q: Can unaccompanied minors fly connecting flights on Delta?

Children ages 8-14 can fly connecting flights as unaccompanied minors. Children ages 5-7 are restricted to nonstop and direct flights only due to the added complexity of connection transfers. Delta staff escorts the child between connecting gates. The last connection of the day is not available for UM to avoid overnight stranding. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 for connecting flight UM availability.

Read our complete guide for more details >

Q: Can unaccompanied minors fly internationally on Delta?

Yes, select international routes accept unaccompanied minors. International UM fees are approximately $300 each way, higher than domestic. Additional documentation including passport, visa, and destination country UM requirements apply. Not all international routes accept UM. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 at least 2-4 weeks before international UM travel for route availability and documentation requirements.

Read our complete guide for more details >

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Frequently Asked Questions

Q: UM fee?

A: $150 each way domestic. ~$300 international. Per child. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 for exact fees on your route.

Q: Age range?

A: 5-14: mandatory UM. 15-17: optional. Under 5: not accepted. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 for age-specific rules.

Q: Book online?

A: No. UM bookings require calling +1 (855) 203-2961. Phone-only process. Call at least 3-5 days before travel.

Q: Connections?

A: Ages 8-14: connections allowed. Ages 5-7: nonstop/direct only. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 for route options.

Q: International?

A: Select routes. Higher fee (~$300). Extra docs required. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 for international UM availability.

Q: Pickup person?

A: Must present government photo ID matching the name on UM paperwork. No exceptions. Call +1 (855) 203-2961 to set up.

Related Articles

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> How Do You Book an Unaccompanied Minor on Delta?

> What Are Delta's Age Requirements for Unaccompanied Minors?

> What Happens During the Flight for a Delta Unaccompanied Minor?

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Written by Travel Policy Research Team | Reviewed by Senior Aviation Editor

Sources: delta.com, U.S. DOT

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